

Message Text

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PAGE 01 NAIROB 00638 130906Z
ACTION AF-10

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-05 H-01
INR-07 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02
SS-15 USIA-06 ACDA-12 IO-13 /094 W
-----004746 130922Z /15

R 130759Z JAN 78
FM AMEMBASSY NAIROBI
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 4182
INFO AMEMBASSY ADDIS ABABA
AMEMBASSY DAR ES SALAAM
AMEMBASSY LONDON
AMEMBASSY LUSAKA
AMEMBASSY MOGADISCIO
AMEMBASSY MOSCOW

C O N F I D E N T I A L NAIROBI 0638

E. O. 11652: XGDS-1
TAGS: PBOR, KE, UK, RH
SUBJ: BRITISH FOREIGN SECRETARY VISITS KENYA AND SEES
KENYATTA

1. BRITISH FOREIGN SECRETARY DR. OWEN, ACCOMPANIED BY WIFE
AND CHILDREN, VACATIONED IN KENYA SOME TWO WEEKS STARTING
DECEMBER 28.

2. OWEN MADE COURTESY CALL ON PRESIDENT JOMO KENYATTA AT
MOMBASA JANUARY 5. PRESENT ON KENYAN SIDE WERE VICE PRESIDENT
MOI, MINSTATE KOINANGE AND FONMIN WAIYAKI. ACCORDING UK
ACTING HIGH COMMISSIONER, WHO ACCOMPANIED OWEN, LATTER TOLD
KENYATTA OF UK'S DEEP CONCERN OVER EVENTS IN HORN AND HOW
TRAGIC IT WOULD BE IF SITUATION WERE TO EVOLVE INTO EAST-WEST
CONFRONTATION. OWEN MADE POINT THAT MATTER SHOULD REMAIN IN
AFRICAN CONTEXT. HE THEN TOLD KENYATTA THAT IF KENYA WERE TO
PERMIT TRANSIT OF SOVIET WAR MATERIEL DESTINED FOR ETHIOPIA
THROUGH MOMBASA (77 NAIROBI 15681 NOTAL) IT WOULD AMOUNT TO
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PAGE 02 NAIROB 00638 130906Z

TYPE OF INTERNATIONAL ESCALATION THAT HE THOUGHT SHOULD BE
AVOIDED. ACCORDING UK ACTING HICOMER, KENYATTA MADE NO
RESPONSE BUT CLEARLY SHOWED HE SEIZED IMPORT OF STATEMENT.

3. ON RHODESIA, OWEN TOLD KENYATTA HIS GOVERNMENT WOULD
CONTINUE TO PURSUE ANGLO-AMERICAN PROPOSALS AND REQUESTED
THAT KENYATTA MEET WITH JOSHUA NKOMO WHEN LATTER NEXT IN

KENYA, COMMENTING THAT NKOMO HAS GREAT RESPECT FOR KENYATTA.
FONMIN WAIYAKI RESPONDED THAT HE WOULD TRY TO ARRANGE SUCH
A MEETING WHEN NKOMO WAS NEXT HERE.

4. UK ACTING HICOMER ADDED THAT KENYATTA REQUESTED OWEN TO
INFORM AMERICANS OF MEETING WHICH, WE ASSUME, HE WILL DO IN
LONDON OR VIA UK AMBASSADOR IN WASHINGTON.

5. UK ACTING HICOMER COMMENTED THAT KENYATTA WAS MENTALLY
ALERT THROUGHOUT THE VISIT.
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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 jan 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: VISITS, MEETINGS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 13 jan 1978
Decaption Date: 01 jan 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 20 Mar 2014
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1978NAIROB00638
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: X1
Errors: N/A
Expiration:
Film Number: D780020-0004
Format: TEL
From: NAIROBI
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1978/newtext/t19780168/aaaacfbu.tel
Line Count: 73
Litigation Code IDs:
Litigation Codes:
Litigation History:
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Message ID: 2831fce3-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Office: ACTION AF
Original Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: n/a
Retention: 0
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 14 apr 2005
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review Media Identifier:
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
SAS ID: 3781156
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: BRITISH FOREIGN SECRETARY VISITS KENYA AND SEES KENYATTA
TAGS: PBOR, KE, UK, RH, (KENYATTA, JOMO), (OWEN, DAVID)
To: STATE
Type: TE
vdkgvwkey: odhc://SAS/SAS.dbo.SAS_Docs/2831fce3-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Review Markings:
Sheryl P. Walter
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
20 Mar 2014
Markings: Sheryl P. Walter Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 20 Mar 2014